

**Understanding the Times**  
**PHILOSOPHY UNIT: Study Guide**

**Christianity (pp.85-92)**

1. What does all knowing require?
2. Define *epistemology*.
3. According to Christianity, what is true of truth discovered through science, history, and experience?
4. Fully describe the basis of Christian epistemology.
5. In what solution are most people likely to believe?
6. What can a Christian view as a wise, but limited, ally?
7. What is the philosophical basis for modern science?
8. Define *metaphysics*.
9. Define *cosmology*.
10. Define *ontology*.
11. Name one thing virtually all Christians believe.
12. What does the cosmos manifest at every level?
13. Define *mind/body problem*.
14. Define *mind/body dualism*.
15. Define *mind/body monism*.
16. What is implied by making a distinction between the brain and the mind?
17. Define *supernaturalism*.

**Islam (pp. 93-100)**

18. How are Islamic and Christian philosophies similar?
19. Define *Necessary Being*.
20. Explain the *Kalam Cosmological Argument* for the existence of God.
21. What is the Islamic view of epistemology?
22. What is implied by Islam's belief in final judgment?
23. How many of Muhammad's miracles are recorded in the Qur'an? How does this complicate Islam's claim that Muhammad is greater than Jesus?
24. What do Muslim apologists say about the Bible's miracles and stories?

**Secular Humanism (pp. 101-105)**

25. Upon what are the philosophical positions of Secular Humanism based?
26. What is the core tenet for each of Secular Humanism's philosophical positions?
27. Define *naturalism*.
28. What is the key tenet of naturalism?
29. What do naturalists deny?
30. Why do naturalists minimize the design found in the universe?
31. What is the supreme aim of naturalistic humanism? How is it accomplished?
32. Explain what Secular Humanists believe about how the universe came into being.
33. What was Einstein's conclusion about the origin of the universe?
34. What is the epistemology of Secular Humanism?
35. From what is Secular Humanism's epistemology inseparable?
36. How does Secular Humanism view the mind?

**Marxism-Leninism (pp. 107-112)**

37. What is Marxism's philosophical approach called?
38. Explain Marxist epistemology.
39. Explain the difference between *true belief* and knowledge.
40. Explain the Marxist approach to the mind-body problem.

**Cosmic Humanism (pp. 113-117)**

41. What are the roots of the contemporary Cosmic Humanist movement?
42. Define *non-naturalism*.
43. Explain the epistemology of Cosmic Humanism.
44. According to Cosmic Humanism, what is truth?
45. What is Cosmic Humanism's ultimate reality?
46. For Cosmic Humanist's what is the purpose of knowing?

**Postmodernism (pp. 119-125)**

47. What is the difference between Truth and truths?
48. With what are Postmodernists highly concerned?
49. Define *anti-realism*.
50. Define *correspondence theory of truth*.

**"Understanding Postmodernism" Video**

51. How does the postmodernist view of *big stories* differ from those of the pre-modern and modern periods?
52. What four elements define the philosophy of postmodernism?
53. In what five ways is postmodernism a contradiction?
54. How are Christianity and postmodernism different and similar?

**"Evil and Suffering" Video**

55. List and define three types of evil.
56. What are the two "sides" of evil?
57. How does theism explain the existence of evil?